

## TEXT OF THE CZAR'S OFFER.

### Proposition for an International Conference.

London, August 28.—The Czar's proposition for an international conference, for the purpose of securing real and lasting peace among the Powers and the termination of the progressive increase in armaments, as conveyed in a note from Count Muraviev, the Russian foreign minister, to the foreign diplomats at St. Petersburg, is likely to produce a sensation throughout Europe, and, coming from such a quarter and with such evident sincerity of purpose, it is likely to have important effects.

There is no doubt that with Russia taking the lead is such a step, Germany, France and the other nations will be ready to follow.

The text of the note follows:

"The maintenance of general peace and the possible reduction of the excessive armaments, which weigh upon all nations, present themselves in existing conditions to the whole world as an ideal toward which the endeavors of all governments should be directed. The humanitarian and magnanimous ideas of his Majesty, the Emperor, my august master, have been won over by this view in the conviction that this lofty aim is in conformity with the most essential interests and legitimate views of all the Powers; and the Imperial Government thinks the present moment would be very favorable to seeking the means.

"International discussion is the most effectual means of ensuring all peoples benefit—a real, durable peace, above all, putting an end to the progressive development of the present armaments.

"In the course of the last twenty years the longing for general appeasement has grown especially pronounced in the consciences of civilized nations; and the preservation of peace has been put forward as an object of international policy. It is in its name that great states have concluded among themselves powerful alliances.

"It is better to guarantee the peace that they have developed in proportions hitherto unprecedented their military forces and still continue to increase them, without shrinking from any sacrifice.

"Nevertheless, all these efforts have not yet been able to bring about the beneficent result desired—pacification.

"The financial charges following the upward march strike at the very root of public prosperity. The intellectual and physical strength of the nation's labor and capital are mostly diverted from their natural application and are unproductively consumed. Hundreds of millions are devoted to acquiring terrible engines of destruction, which, though to-day regarded as the last work of science, are destined to-morrow to lose all their value in consequence of some fresh discovery in the same field. National culture, economic progress and the production of wealth are either paralyzed or checked in development. Moreover, in proportion as the armaments of each power increase, they less and less fulfil the object the governments have set before themselves.

"The economic crisis, due in great part to the system of armaments, outrance, and the continual danger which lies in this massing of war material are transforming the armed peace of our days into a crushing burden, which the peoples have more and more difficulty in bearing.

"It appears evident that if this state of things were to be prolonged, it would inevitably lead to the very cataclysm it is desired to avert, and the horrors whereof made every thinking being shudder in advance.

"To put an end to these incessant armaments and to seek the means of warding off the calamities which are threatening the whole world—such is the supreme duty to-day imposed upon all states.

"Filled with this idea, his Majesty has been pleased to command me to propose to all the governments, whose representatives are accredited to the Imperial court, the assembling of a conference, which shall occupy itself with this grave problem.

"This conference will be, by the help of God, a happy presage for the century which is about to open. It would converge into one powerful focus the efforts of all states sincerely seeking to make the great conception of universal peace triumph over the elements of trouble and discord, and it would, at the same time, cement their agreement by a corporate consecration of the principles of equity and right whereon rest the security of states and the welfare of peoples."

### EFFECT OF THE NOTE IN ITALY.

Rome, August 28.—The Czar's note has made a profound impression here. Some of the newspapers applaud, while others greet the communication with reserve or distrust.

### COMMENT OF LONDON PRESS

London, August 29.—The Daily

Graphic this morning, referring to the proposal of Emperor Nicholas, says: "It would be idle to attempt to ignore the many and grave difficulties standing in the way of the attainment of the Czar's wishes, but it cannot be possible to doubt the sincerity of the magnanimous proposal."

The Standard says, speaking editorially of the Czar's proposal: "In England at least respect and sympathy will be felt for the proposal. It is a conception well worthy of the young sovereign. It is painfully obvious that there are enormous difficulties to be overcome, which it is possible the Czar, in his ardor and humane enthusiasm, has not maturely considered. It is a vision which has occurred to many minds, but has always had to be dismissed as a mere dream. The nations are not likely to cast away the sword unless they have a better warrant than paper protocols and conventions. Moreover, the moment does not seem altogether propitious. New armed nations are arising in Asia and America, whom it might not be easy to convince of the safety and desirability of abandoning the enterprise on which they have embarked with so much energy."

"The Times correspondent in St. Petersburg, referring to the proposal, says: 'There is reason to believe that it formed the object of communications between the Courts of St. Petersburg and Berlin some time previously, and in all probability the support of Germany at least was secured in advance.'

The Times says editorially: "If Russia, which has also a great, but still undeveloped, industrial future before her, is becoming fully convinced, as we in England long have been, that her resources are better devoted to the beneficent arts of peace than to the destructive, un-economic energies of war, Englishmen, as essentially a peace loving people, can only hail the Czar's pronouncement with the utmost cordiality as glad tidings of great joy, which; whatever may be the practical issue, does cast honor upon the sovereign's generous and lofty spirit and humanity. The difficulties are great, but nothing can henceforth deprive the Czar of having brought peace disarmament into the sphere of practical politics. It looks at present as though all the great Powers might be willing to enter the conference."

### WHAT SHERMAN SAYS.

Special to The Augusta Herald. Washington, August 27.—Ex-Secretary of State John Sherman said last night:

"Gross mismanagement has characterized the affairs of the war department during the past six months, and a congressional investigation should be ordered to fix the responsibility. Those responsible for the death and sickness of thousands of American troops should be brought before the bar of justice and if the higher officials of the war department are proven responsible, they should be impeached. In saying this I do not wish to be understood as criticising any particular individual of the department. Secretary of War Alger and myself have been friendly since we first met, which was when we came into the cabinet together. We got along very well together and nothing occurred to cause friction between us. But some one is to blame for the deplorable condition of affairs which has existed in the army camps, and it seems to me that the head of a great department like the head of the war department should be held accountable for the misdoings of his subordinates.

### CZAR FAVORS PEACE.

St. Petersburg, August 28.—By order of Emperor Nicholas, Count Muraviev, the foreign minister, on the 24th inst., handed to the foreign diplomats at St. Petersburg a note declaring that the maintenance of peace and the reduction of the excessive armaments now crushing all nations is the ideal for which all governments ought to strive.

The czar considers the present moment favorable for the inauguration of a government looking to this end, and invites the powers to take part in an international conference as a means of thus ensuring real and lasting peace and terminating the progressive increase of armament.

### 750 Typhoid Patients.

Atlanta, Ga., August 27.—Louis Stratmeyer, Company G, 5th Maryland, and Michael Edwards, Troop D, 6th cavalry, privates, died at Fort McPherson to-day of typhoid fever. There are now 750 patients in the general hospital, nearly 600 of whom are afflicted with typhoid fever.

### Three Hundred Spaniards Killed.

If 300 Americans can kill 200 Spaniards in 300 days, how many Americans will it take to kill 100 Spaniards in 100 days? One thousand Dollars will be paid to the person answering the above problem correctly. Many other prizes of value. All of which will be announced in the next issue of *Upton's Illustrated Weekly*. As a positive guarantee as to my reliability I refer to any mercantile or commercial agency. As the object of offering these prizes is to attract attention to my popular family magazine, each person answering must enclose with their answer five two cent stamps (or ten cents silver) for one month's subscription, containing full particulars. Send to-day. To be first is a laudable ambition; you may secure the thousand dollars. Ten dollars in gold will be paid for the best original problem, to be published in a future number. Address: C. M. Upton, 324 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

## TURNING POINT IN HISTORY.

### What is Said in the Leading Cities of the World.

London, August 29.—The papers are filled with discussions, comments and opinions as to the circular of the Emperor Nicholas. The most world-shaking event could hardly have produced such a coup as this suggestion, the fruition of which is regarded on all sides as an absolute impossibility.

This being holiday season, it is difficult to obtain the opinions of public men on the subject. The religious world, however, loudly welcomes and praises the czar's noble initiative. Numerous bishops have already publicly expressed their views in that sense.

Among statesmen interviewed, Lord Kimberly, the liberal leader, declined to express a hasty opinion beyond saying that the proposal was one of the utmost importance.

The marquis of Ripon said: "I heartily wish the proposal all success."

Sir Charles Dilke, radical member of parliament for the Forest of Dean, remarked: "The Russian peace footing of nearly a million regulars exceeds the peace footing of Germany, Austria and Italy, combined. Thus it has been in Russia's power to reduce the land forces by diminishing her own in connection with a similar action on the part of Germany."

"French public opinion is not prepared for disarmament, which would mean, as things stand now, an acceptance of the Alsace-Lorraine situation. Naval disarmament would be dangerous for Great Britain. Any formal plan would involve subsequent breaches of faith, but if Germany and Russia will cease increasing their forces we can follow without a formal agreement."

Lord Frederick Roberts of Kandahar, commander of the forces in Ireland, said in reply to a request for his opinion: "It will be most satisfactory if such a proposal can be carried out."

The Earl of Crowe calls the czar's suggestion an "historical utterance," and earnestly hopes that Great Britain will not object to a conference. No excitement is noticeable at the foreign office. It is understood that a special messenger was sent from St. Petersburg recently with a full explanation of the czar's proposal.

Naturally all persons and societies connected with the peace and arbitration movements are jubilant. The pope wired his congratulations to Emperor Nicholas immediately and offered every assistance in his power to promote the proposed conference.

The Times in its financial article this morning says: "The czar's circular has had a good effect upon the markets as indicating that there is no immediate probability of war. Many people remark the fact that the proposal appears when Russia's power to borrow freely is almost ended and when she has placed herself in positions in China and elsewhere which can be defended only at great cost."

### THE FRENCH PRESS.

Paris, August 29.—The French newspapers generally mistrust the practicability of the czar's peace scheme, and clearly indicate that France would make the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine a prerequisite to her participation in the conference.

### THE GERMAN PRESS.

Berlin, August 29.—The North German Gazette, referring to-day to the czar's peace conference proposal, remarks: "Our armaments were never intended for selfish ends, but only for our own protection and for the maintenance of peace. We are willing to give a fair trial to another method of attaining the object at a smaller cost."

The National Zeitung says: "The czar and ministers have not deluded themselves with the idea that they can rid the world of the causes which for years have been responsible for the growing armaments. When a great power, however, addresses such proposals to others, they will be recognized everywhere as deserving of the most serious consideration."

The Vossische Zeitung expresses the opinion that the importance of the note does not lie in the proposal for a conference, but in its conception.

The Post warmly eulogizes the czar's motives, which, it adds, "must everywhere arouse sympathy."

The Kreuz Zeitung says: "No one can yet appreciate the real significance of the note. Its bitter sweet reception in France shows it will not meet with universal approval."

### Successful Physicians.

We heartily recommend Dr. Hathaway & Co., of 22 1/2 S. Broad St., Atlanta, Ga., as being perfectly reliable and remarkably successful in the treatment of chronic diseases of men and women. They cure when others fail. Our readers if in need of medical help should certainly write these eminent doctors and you will receive a free and expert opinion of your case by return mail without cost.

The "White" is the pride of home.

Come and see us before buying or trading. We can please you with a White-Randle.

## COTTON GROWERS' STATE CONVENTION.

### Every County Should Organize and Send Delegates.

The following important call "to the cotton growers of South Carolina" was issued yesterday:

I have been requested to call a meeting of the cotton growers to meet in Columbia, S. C., on Tuesday, September 20, 1898.

It is requested that every county in this State send delegates to this convention.

The country organization in each county is requested to meet and elect delegates. Where it is impracticable to call a mass meeting, the county presidents are requested to see to it that a delegation comes to the State convention. Where there is no organization those interested are most earnestly requested to cooperate with the clerk of court of said county, the clerks being hereby requested to interest themselves, at least to the extent of seeing that their counties are represented.

This meeting will take steps that will be of inestimable benefit to every cotton grower in this State.

The Hon. Hector D. Lane having died, his successor has been named, by election of Col. Maxwell of Louisiana to fill said office.

At a conference in Memphis, a committee from each State was appointed to negotiate for money, whereby liens on the present crop could be taken up and the bulk of the crop of this year held off for 60 or 90 days, and perhaps longer; which it is hoped, will force present prices up.

The big crop that is now predicted is liable to depress present prices. The producer has the key to the situation if he can be induced to act as a unit.

Send delegater from every community, and let them discuss plans in county convention for this crop, also for the next crop, and send county recommendations to the State convention.

Every daily and weekly newspaper in this State is respectfully requested to give publicity to this call, and to assist the cotton growers in this undertaking.

The importance of doing something to relieve the present depressed price is urged as the reason for calling the convention at so early a date. Let every cotton grower interest himself enough to see that his section is represented.

Convention to meet at 8 o'clock p. m. Correspondence solicited.  
J. C. Wilborn,  
President of Cotton Growers' Association of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

### The Chickamauga Pest Hole.

Chickamauga National Park, August 28.—The last of this week will see almost every regiment of volunteers gone from Camp Thomas. This morning when the 1st Pennsylvania left for Lexington it compelled the removal of the 1st army corps. By Monday at the latest the 2d army corps will be going to move to Anniston, Ala.

If the railroads can handle the troops by Saturday night not a single regiment will be left in the park, with the exception of the 6th United States volunteers, which will be kept here to guard the hospitals and Government property.

The removal of Major Gen. Breckinridge's headquarters from Camp Thomas will likely occur on September 1. The prospects are that the General will establish his main headquarters at Lexington and divide his time between that place and Knoxville.

As fast as trains can be gotten ready the convalescents are being sent to their homes. Already over four thousand sick leaves have been granted, and there are yet in the hospital over 1,500 sick. These will be sent home as they are convalescent.

There were to-day reported in all 520 cases of typhoid fever in the hospitals, and six deaths.

### A FEMALE SURGEON.

Washington, August 29.—To-day for the first time in the history of the American army a woman was appointed a member of the medical staff. Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee, wife of Prof. W. J. McGee of this city, and daughter of Prof. Simeon Newcomb, formerly of the naval observatory, was regularly sworn in as an acting assistant surgeon. This, according to Secretary Alger's general order, would entitle her to the uniform of second lieutenant without designation of rank. It is not likely, however, that Dr. McGee will avail herself of this privilege. The appointment, while a novelty from a technical standpoint, is not the beginning of Dr. McGee's service with the war department; throughout the war she has been in charge of the selection of the women nurses, and of the 700 now in the field most have passed muster at her hands.

Dr. McGee has practiced her profession in Washington for some years, and is well known in medical circles throughout this country, having contributed several papers to the American Association for the advancement of science and to other scientific organizations.

Wisdom to-day means comfort to-morrow. To prove it buy a "White" and use it.

## Instructions Have Been Issued.

### Cuban and Porto Rican Commissions Ready to Leave.

Washington, August 29.—The instructions to the Cuban and Porto Rican military commissions were drawn up and approved by the President before he left Washington. The instructions will not be made public, but the general terms are known to be the same as the instructions sent to Gen. Shafter regarding the government of Santiago, and to Gen. Merritt regarding the Philippines. This will mean that the military commission will take charge of Cuba and Porto Rico the same as the military governor now controls that portion of Cuba rendered to the United States after the Santiago campaign.

The many minor details relative to the evacuation of the islands are left to the commissioners, who will report any difficult or disputed points to Washington.

There never has been doubt that the United States will take full control of Porto Rico, but the instructions to the Cuban military commission settles any question regarding that island and means for the present at least the United States will assume the government and control of the remainder of the islands as has been the case in Santiago.

### General Orders Issued.

Washington, August 29.—At 11:30 o'clock tonight general orders relating to the mustering out of volunteers and granting furloughs were promulgated by Adj. Gen. Corbi. To those officers and men who have served beyond the limits of the United States leaves of absence and furloughs for 60 days will be granted respectively, while to those who have not served outside of the country the leaves of absence and furloughs will be limited to 30 days.

### Will Justice White Accept?

Washington, August 29.—There is still a possibility of a change in the personnel of the American membership of the peace commission. Up to this moment it is not definitely and absolutely known whether Justice White will accept the appointment tendered him, and efforts are making by the president to learn his intentions in the matter.

Mr. McArthur, the assistant secretary of the American commission, is now in New York making arrangements for the sailing of the commission on the 17th of September.

It is suggested that Senator Lodge of Massachusetts is being considered to fill the vacancy that would so result.

### Spanish Peace Commission.

London, August 30.—The Madrid correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "The peace commissioners will be Senor Leony Castillo, Spanish ambassador at Paris; Senor Uratua, Spanish minister at Brussels, the duke of Najera, governor of Cadiz; Senator Maroartu and Senor Abarzuza."

### Hobson's Promotion.

Washington, August 27.—Assistant Naval Constructor Hobson was to have been examined for promotion last week, but owing to his duties he could not go before the board. It was ordered that his record be examined to see if that would entitle him to the highest rank. The board says: "The board joins with all the world in admiring the skill, courage and gallant conduct of Assistant Naval Constructor Richmond P. Hobson in connection with the Merrimac as set forth in the letter of the commanding officer of the North Atlantic station."

The report then refers to the various papers submitted in connection with Mr. Hobson's record, and closes with a recommendation that he be promoted to naval constructor.

### The Philippine Friars.

London, August 27.—The Philippine Islands' committee in Europe has addressed a letter to President McKinley regarding the appeals made to him by high Roman Catholic ecclesiastics in America to protect the religious Orders in the islands. The expulsion of the friars, the committee contends, is a "necessary antecedent to moral sanitation." The letter names particularly the Arch bishop of Manila and the Bishops of Nueva Segovia and Nueva Caseres "whose acts of hostility against both natives and Americans and against the Jesuits and other respected religious institutions are condemned by every one."

The committee urges President McKinley to "aid the Filipinos to suppress the immorality of the diabolical institutions fostered by these monks," and the letter concludes as follows: "Your name can never be associated with that of the friars, and the sense of right of the noble nation at whose head you are placed will never permit the ever victorious humanitarian Stars and Stripes to protect them."

## ONE THOUSAND HUMAN SKELETONS,

### THE SHADOW OF THE FIRST MAINE.

### THE REGIMENT WHICH PASSED THROUGH SUMTER LAST WEEK.

Special to The Augusta Herald.

New York, August 27.—One thousand skeletons, the shadow of the First Maine volunteers, reached Jersey City to-day. Out of this wreck of what was a splendid regiment every fifth man was so weak, so emaciated by suffering and disease that he could hardly walk.

"What is Chickamauga like?" "It is hell—hell—hell!" said Capt. L. H. Baroe, of Co. C. "It is the worst place I ever saw—worse than I ever imagined, and life there was truly hell. Picture to yourself 50,000 soldiers encamped on a hillside, with no proper surface drainage. Imagine the refuse and filth that must accumulate, then picture the health of the men from northern climates who were forced to wallow in such filth, with a burning sun overhead all day long. Is it any wonder that we are mere shadows of our former selves? The men hope they will never have to undergo such torture again. We would not have cared if we had been killed in Cuba while fighting for our flag, but to be placed in a hellish place like Chickamauga within the boundaries of our own beloved country, was cruel, to say the least."

## Movements of Troops to and From Santiago.

### MORE SICK AMERICANS START HOME.

### GEN TORAL AND STAFF ARE TO LEAVE THIS WEEK.

Santiago, August 28, 7 45 p. m.—The transport Roumanian will leave for Montauk Point to-morrow morning with six hundred and fifty sick men of the Seventy-first New York, Second and Ninth Massachusetts, Second regulars, the Tenth cavalry and the Sixteenth and Twenty-first regiments. The condition of the men is extremely bad, the disappointment over the delays in getting them away having greatly affected their spirits. Ambulances were found to be necessary to convey most of them to the steamer.

The transports San Francisco, San Augustine and Leonora will leave to-morrow for Guantanamo, Barracosa and Sagua, for the Spanish prisoners there. The condition of these men is distressing and it is probable that death will claim nearly half of them before they reach Spain. Their condition is the result of hard living and the prevailing fever. The rations and medical aid sent from Santiago were practically too late.

The transport Knickerbocker arrived this morning with the Second battalion of the fifth infantry. Her trip was delayed through an accident to her gear at Tampa.

The Second and Third battalions of Ray's immune regiment will leave to-morrow for Baracosa and Sagua, for garrison duty at those places.

Gen Toral's staff and a few other officers will leave next week on the Leon XIII. Gen Toral and his staff are now assisting in the embarkation of the Spanish troops. The general has received many calls from American officers during the last few days.

Gen. Lawton will use Gen Toral's headquarters at the building of the Spanish club as his headquarters, the palace being too small for the numerous officers necessary for the administration.

Over 200 Santiago refugees returned from Jamaica yesterday, and others are coming soon, now that confidence is restored. Those who have returned found their houses greatly disturbed. The Spanish hospital, as soon as it is vacated, will be renovated, fumigated and repaired for use as a civil hospital. Its location is excellent and it has a capacity of 1,000.

Upon the arrival of a Spanish major recently it was discovered by accident that he had several trunks filled with silver jewelry, valuable articles and money, evidently the result of looting the houses of residents during the confusion attendant upon the El Caney exodus. Large amounts of money were carried away by Spanish officers. At one house where eight Spanish officers were living, there was recovered a large trunk which contained two bushels of silver and gold, which represented about \$20,000.

The soldiers have received only a small sum from our government, tobacco and other small necessities. Otherwise the condition of the Spaniards is wretched. They are sick and penniless, and distrust the reception they will meet on their return to Spain.

If you want a nice organ an easy terms see Randle